Resurrection and Presence

An exposition of Romans 8:9-11 at West Hills San Jose on April 12, 2020

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER: Let's begin with a word of prayer. Lord you are our God and King, you are our Savior and Defender, you are our Hope and Help in our time of need, you are our Joy and our Salvation in life and death, incline your ear to us, and hear our voice, as we pour out our hearts before you. Lord we pray for everyone on earth, that you would use the current pandemic to open their minds to spiritual realities. Would you be at work in the midst of these trying times, to open doors for your gospel, to open doors for the church to love her neighbors, to cause a growing awareness of your presence in the midst of the earth and the power of faith to sustain hope and joy in the midst of global pandemics. We pray for all the frontline medical workers, would you keep them safe and healthy. We pray specifically for Lucia and Marena and Monica Monari. I ask Lord that you would help us all to remember them constantly in our prayers.

And I pray for your Church Lord Jesus. Make us a true and faithful witness as you were a true and faithful witness. Help us to keep our eyes focused on you as we worship, love and make known the reality of Your resurrection triumph in the world. I pray for the members of this local body who are tuned in and listening, I pray that you would help them pay attention and not become distracted. And Lord I pray that as they are listening that your Spirit would nourish their faith with Spiritual truth, that they would be built up, encouraged, edified and changed.

I pray for anyone who is logged in and has not put their faith in Jesus before. God let today be the day that they decide to follow the risen Christ. I pray that you would be speaking to their heart at this very moment...that they would recognize that God is causing the preacher to pray for them...and them specifically, that they would turn from their sins...put their faith in Christ...and begin walking with Him for the rest of their days.

Lord help me be clear and understandable this morning. Who you are and what you have done....is in one sense is the most complicated thing in the universe...but in another sense isn't that complicated at all. Help us to read, see and believe that you really are our God, that we really are your people, and that all those who trust in You will not be put to shame.

I don't raise these prayers to you because I'm righteous, or because I hope in myself. I pray these things because Christ Jesus has shed his blood to forgive my sins, and He was raised from the dead to stand at your right hand as my advocate and saving King, in His name I pray....amen.

PROBLEM: Welcome, to our very first, and hopefully only ever, virtual easter worship service. This might be the first time in the history of the church, that almost all of the Christian's on earth did not physically assemble for easter worship. And the speaks to the dire reality of our present circumstances. For most people in the world, this experience has been marked by fear and uncertainty. Fear of death, fear for those we love, fear of sever economic repercussions, fear of loneliness, fear of ourselves. The presence of the Coronavirus has brought the entire world to a grinding halt, and each and every one of us has been forced to reckon in our own minds and hearts what these events might mean for us and for those we love.

But for Christians, the presence of all those things aren't a reason for us to be afraid. Those possibilities aren't reasons for us to fear. Why? Because if you are a Christian, your flesh and your heart may fail but God is the strength of your heart and your portion forever. For those who follow Christ, these events help bring us face to face with the center of the Christian faith. Namely, with God Himself. We don't fear because of Who is with us. We don't fear because circumstances like the simply makes more vivid, and more clear and more glorious the things that God has done, and the things that He promises He will do in the future. If you are a Christian, you can look at pandemics, and prophecies of financial recession with joyful confidence. For one primary reason...and that is my main point today.

MAIN POINT: Christ is risen and present with His people, so live with fearless love

SETTING THE CONTEXT: Last week we took a break from our normal series in Exodus to spend Palm Sunday and Easter morning in Romans 8. So please open your bibles to Romans 8:5. And we did this in order to set our explicit focus on the death and resurrection on the Son of God. So let me take a little extra time setting the context for those who are tuning in this week for the first time.

If you are not familiar with the book of Romans it is in the New Testament, it is after the gospels and the book of Acts, and before 1 Corinthians. The book of Romans was written by the apostle Paul, who was formerly an enemy of the Christian church several decades after Christ was crucified and risen, and who had an encounter with the living Christ that transformed him for the rest of His life. But that's a story for another time. Paul is writing to the church in Rome that is struggling with some significant division, and he addresses their conflict by reminding them of all that God had done in the coming of Jesus Christ.

He began by telling them the story of the world: God in love formed human beings, in His very image, for a life of wonder and love, and creativity in His presence. He made us to live forever in fellowship with Him. But we rejected His ways and rebelled against His gracious commands and as a result sin and death entered the world. Sin corrupted our race and now our hearts, our very selves are bent, we are made crooked, so that our natural response is to reject Him and feel hostile to Him rather than love and worship, and as a consequence, every human being at some point or another, is claimed by death. This is the old order of the world, that was brought about by human sin, and the central problem that God must overcome if any of us will ever be restored to the glory and joy we were created for.

And we saw last week in the beginning of Romans 8 and that God has gone about bridging that chasm between us in various ways, but in the final analysis, we are too weak, too broken, too morally feeble...to will our way back to a holy God. His righteousness is too great... our standards for ourselves are far too tiny and corrupt, and even when He gave us the perfect law, none of us, no not one, has been capable of keeping it.

But, because of the great love with which God loved us, because of His mercy and kindness, and grace, what we could never and would never do for ourselves...God has done by sending His own son into the world to take on our humanity, and in our humanity to die as one of

us, not for His own sin, but for our sin, not to defeat deaths power over Him, to defeat deaths power over us. He died to forge a lasting and unbreakable reconciliation between God and God's people...a reconciliation sealed by a covenant, like a marriage but bigger and stronger and more immovable. And He did this when Christ was crucified for our sins, dealing with our entire rap sheet, all the wrong we've ever done...and then bursting forth out of the grave...in triumph over death. When Christ walked out of the tomb...the older order of things...where sin and death reigned...began to come undone. A new kingdom has entered the world...where life and joy and wonder are being restored to human beings by the presence of their King, the Lord Jesus Christ in their midst. And the way Jesus becomes present with His people is that after He rose from the dead He ascended to the Father's right hand and sent the Holy Spirit into His people to change them from the inside out, to guide them, to live in them, to cultivate every virtue that leads to our ultimate happiness in the worship of our God. So having said all that...let's pick up where Paul left off in Romans 8:5

READING: Romans 8:5–11 [5] For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. [6] For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [7] For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. [8] Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

[9] You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. [10] But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. [11] If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. (ESV)

PRAYER: Lord open our eyes to behold glorious things in your law. Amen.

ROAD MAP: 1.) Who is Paul talking about? 2.) what does the Spirit's presence mean for Christians? 3.) how is all of this tied to the resurrection of Christ?

WHO IS PAUL TALKING ABOUT

- 1. So let's take a look at what this says. I want to spend the majority of our time in verses 9-11 but let me quickly say something about verses 5-8. As I noted in the introduction, Paul is speaking to people who had formerly found themselves in an impossible situation.
- 2. He says there are those who set their minds on the things of the flesh and those who set their minds on the things of the Spirit. Probably the most simple way to describe what he means is that the normal pattern of human life is to simply think about, worry about, live for things of this world. What he calls things of the flesh. Money, pleasure, things, career, travel, leisure even family. If those things are you primary, central, occupying concerns...you are living according to the flesh.
 - 1. On the other hand, those who have the Holy Spirit, think about, worry about, live for God. It's not that you don't care about those other things. Of course you do. It's about

what is foundational. Jesus says the person who listens to and obeys me...the one who thinks about, worries about lives for me...is like a person who builds a house with a foundation set upon solid rock. The person who does not listen to and obey me...the person who thinks about, worries about lives for other things...is like a person building their house upon sand. And a storm is coming...that will strike every house...and only the houses built upon rock will survive.

- 2. And Paul knowns this. And He picks up that teaching and says the same thing with different categories. Those who live for the things of this world are in an impossible situation. He says in verse 6 that the minds set on flesh leads to death...but the mind set on spirit is life and peace. What I'm talking about here is literally a life and death situation. These two ways of life set you on inevitable trajectories. If you live for God you will know life and peace...if you live for the things of this world...it will lead to anxiety, fear and eventually death.
 - 1. Which frame of mind best categorizes your thought life? What are you living for? If you don't repent from your sins and turn to God there is no hope for you.
- 3. If you look down in verse 7, Those who set their mind on earthly, godless things...are hostile to God v. 7. Unless you open yourself up to the possibility that the natural inclinations of most of our hearts lead us to sin and death...you will live as God's enemy. You will live in open hostility against him...you will say what gives God the right to tell me what to do? And you will see Him as an enemy rather than as a gracious King who is seeking to lead you into life and peace.
- 4. Verse 7 says, It does not submit to God's law, because it is unable to do so. Sometimes people reject the idea that they are under the power and control of sin. They think, no I'm doing what I want to do, and I'm capable of making any change I desire to make. If you think that's true...let me challenge you...if that's true, than stop sinning. I'll make it easier, if that's true, stop coveting. Stop desiring other people's spouses, other peoples things, other peoples talents, other peoples opportunities. If you aren't under sins power...stop sinning. God says...unless you set your mind on Him and desire to serve Him...you will not and cannot stop.
- 5. Finally verse 8, Those who are in the flesh...living a life focused on the things of earth, a life that is unwilling to submit to and worship the One who made you...cannot please God. Even if you could stop all coveting...even if that was attainable for a human being...your moral efforts would not be God pleasing. And the reason is...because you would be doing it for yourself. God isn't looking for your moral effort...God wants you. God wants to live in relationship with you. He wants to lead you into life and peace, and He will if you simply confess and turn from your sins and ask Him to save you and heal you. Those who do not have the Spirit of God are in an impossible situation...and your only hope is to acknowledge your powerlessness and seek salvation from the powerful One, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3. So then we get to verse 9. And in verse 9 the pronouns change. In verses 5-8, Paul was talking about those people....you know THOSE PEOPLE. He was talking about those in general, he was talking about flesh and spirit as it relates to all human beings. But when you get to verse 9, the pronouns change from those, TO YOU (second person plural). To YOU

church in Rome. To you Christians gathered in Jesus name for worship and the reading of the Word of God.

- 1. And this is important for two reasons. First, it's important because Paul announces this as a present reality. You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit. And Paul adds the conditional sentence...if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. But the presence of that conditional "if" is not intended to diminish the reality of the Spirit's presence in the church. Instead He is trying to illuminate the inseparable nature of these two things. If the Spirit dwells in you...you will live in spirit. If the Spirit of God dwells in you, you will set your mind on the things of God. One always leads to the other. So if you find yourself hating sin, and hungering for righteousness...IT'S BECAUSE the Spirit of God is in you.
- 2. This is something that is available today...this is not something we are waiting for. The Spirit has been poured out into the world to be received by all who cry out to God for salvation. Which brings me to the second important thing about the fact that Paul is talking to YOU the church in Rome.
- 4. This is talking about everyone in the church, not just some in the church. Sharing in the Spirit of God is not something that God gives as a reward for being extra holy. The gift of the Spirit is not some sort of second blessing to be attained by Christians...it is given to all Christians in the church, who have put their faith in Christ. The whole church...is in the Spirit, because the Spirit of God dwells in them.
- 5. And here is why that is so important. This is what distinguishes a Christian from the rest of the world. It's not the denomination you belong to...it's not the confession you subscribe to, it's not how precise your knowledge is, or whether or not you can live a morally superior life to your neighbor...a Christian is someone who has the Spirit of God within them. A christian church is a church where the Spirit is active and at work among it's people. What distinguishes God's people from the rest of the world is God's presence among them.
 - 1. And God's presence among us leads us away from death away from hostility and rebellion against God into life and peace.
- 6. So who is Paul talking about in this passage? He is talking about people who were formerly in an impossible situation. People who used to have their minds set on worldly things...the flesh...but who have been fundamentally changed by God's presence among them. And God is present among them by His Holy Spirit who dwells in their midst, and this is the primary thing that distinguishes Christians from the rest of the world, not any lesser worldly thing. So in other words...Paul is talking about people like you and me. People who aren't better than our neighbors...who aren't morally stronger...than our neighbors. This talking about people who have confessed their weakness, and their brokenness to God and their need for God to save them...and whom God has filled with His Spirit.
- 7. So the Spirit of God, the presence of God now dwells among His people...so the question I want to ask next is what does that mean exactly? And there is actually quite a bit about that in this short text.

WHAT DOES THE SPIRIT'S PRESENCE MEAN?

- 1. I want to point out four things that the Spirit's presence means for those who are in Christ Jesus. It means 1.) He makes us a home for God, 2.) he makes us God's possession, 3.) he conveys Christ to us, and finally 4) He gives us life.
- 2. **First He makes us a home for God.** If you look back at verse 9, it says the Spirit of God dwells in you. And if you read that in the original language, the word for dwell comes from the word for home. He makes His home in you. The apostle Paul had a pretty large arsenal of more general, or more vague words he could have chosen to describe the Spirit's presence with believers...He could have just said if the Spirit of God IS in you....but instead He employs the word for home making. By coming into our life, the Spirit makes us a home for God.
 - 1. It was blowing my mind as I just lingered over that word this week. What are you doing when you make something your home. Or perhaps more importantly...what are you doing when you make a home with someone else.
 - 2. Well first of all, you begin making home when you decided on where you plan to stay for the long term. You can try to make yourself at home in other places, but the reality is you really can't. Could you imagine telling someone who is staying at your house to make themselves at home, and you came in 20 minutes later and they were painting the walls a different color?
 - 1. You would say dude what are you doing? And they would say...making myself at home...I didn't like this color so I'm painting it a different color. And you would probably say something like dude...this isn't YOUR room, this is our room that we use for guests, and we painted it the color we liked for our own reasons. I didn't mean make yourself THAT MUCH at home.
 - 2. Home is where you plan to stay...and making a home with someone else means a place where you plan to stay together. Home, in the ideal, is the place of your most intimate relationships. Husband wife, father, mother, son, daughter. Home is where you learn to love, to forgive, how to live with one another in an understanding way. Home is where you receive all of your deepest wounds and home is where you must extend all of your deepest forgiveness.
 - 3. Home is not only the place you intend to stay, home is the place of your most significant relationships. And in Christ Jesus, the Spirit of God has made you His home. You are the place He intends to stay, and you are the person He desires to live in relationship with.
 - 3. The Scripture says a number of things about how the Spirit feels when we sin. We can grieve Him when we sin, or when we ignore Him, we can RESIST Him, as He seeks to lead us in various ways. But worst of all in Hebrews 10:29 we can by our sins OUTRAGE the Spirit of grace.
 - 1. What do all those strong words about feelings tell you? You know what they tell me? They tell me that God deeply cares about us. The Spirit has made His home in us and He desires that we would be a home for the glory of God. He deeply desires that we honor the Lord, and glorify Christ with what we do and how we think and in the meditations of our hearts. And when we don't it hurts him, because He loves us, and lives with us.

- 2. So first the Spirit's presence makes you a home for God.
- 3. Second, the Spirit's presence, He makes us God's possession. Looking back at verse 9, anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not BELONG to Him, so it stands to reason that the reverse is also true. If you have the Spirit of Christ YOU DO Belong to Him.
 - Our sensibilities as American's have been trained to recoil at the thought of someone owning another person, and that is largely because of the darkness of our nations past. We think of it as a horrible thing because we immediately equate it to the immediate, horrifying examples we have from the American slave trade. But the way God owns people is as different from the way American slave traders owned people...as the way light is different from darkness. As the way truth is different from lying...as the way love is different from hatred.
 - 2. Imagine a man has a factory. And he decides he needs more space to dump his toxic waste. And so he buys a neighboring plot of land. And once he OWNS that plot of land he starts dumping his toxic green chemicals into the lake and poisons the earth and water until it is uninhabitable and unusable for anything. That is one way of owning something. Coming into possession of something so that you can use it for your own selfish reasons, without regard to how your actions upon it affect it, harm it, destroy it.
 - 3. **Imagine a different man buys a plot of land.** But this man doesn't have a factory that produces death...He has seed and tools that cultivate life. The second man doesn't want to harm the land he wants to help the land, he wants to cultivate it and help it flourish so that they can live together in a mutually edifying way. The man wants to build on the land to help it flourish, to make it better to make it good.
 - 4. Being owned by God is sort of like being owned by the second man...only infinitely better. God seeks to cultivate the soil of His possession to bear the spiritual fruit of love and peace and patience and kindness and gentleness and so forth.
 - 5. But He doesn't do this to feed Himself. He doesn't to create JOY in YOU, and to bless your neighbors. Being owned by God is the best thing that can possibly happen to a human being. It means He takes responsibility to cultivate your life, to protect you, to keep watch over you, to help you to bless you and fill you with joy.
 - 6. The Spirit's presence makes us the fruit bearing possession of God.
- 4. Third, the Spirit's presence means He conveys Christ to us. So look back at our text in verse 9. It says you are in the Spirit if in fact the Spirit of GOD dwells in you (period). Anyone who does not have the Spirit of CHRIST...does not belong to Him. So which is it Paul? God's Spirit, or Christ's Spirit who is IN US?
 - 1. Wait hold on it gets more confusing in verse 10. If CHRIST is in you...the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
 - 2. So Someone is in us lol. Is it the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ, or Christ? And what is fascinating is that Paul doesn't slow down to explain this at all...he just assumes the church is going to know what he is talking about. So after a lot of study here is what I think is going on.
 - 3. I think, that the primary role of the Spirit in your life is to reveal and exalt Christ to you. To show you the glory of Jesus, which has the effect of changing you forever. And the

Spirit is so good at that...He is so good at conveying the reality of Christ to you that it is almost like having Christ Himself in you.

- 4. So to be more specific, I think that the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ are synonyms for the Holy Spirit, and to have the Spirit is almost like having Christ Himself in you to such an extent that Paul can just say Christ is in you without qualification.
- 5. Christ abides in heaven at the Father's right hand, but the Spirit is so effective at conveying the reality of Christ to you, it's like having Christ Himself in you.
 - 1. Jesus Himself described this in just as confusing terms...In John 14:16-18 he says "I will ask the Father and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever, that is, the Spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."
 - 2. So Jesus tells the disciples, that He is going away but don't worry He is sending someone in His place to help them. And when He comes, it's like Christ Himself is coming. He can say "I will come to you." Even though it's the Spirit who comes.
 - 3. Now whether I have gotten this exactly right or not is difficult and everyone wrestles with these ideas....but here is what I can say with utter confidence...the presence of the Spirit means God really is with you. He really is present with you at this moment and forever. And in some sense, it's not just the Spirit who is with you, but Jesus Christ Himself.
 - 4. And that means at least two things for you today. One...if you feel isolated at home right now...you are not alone. God is with you. And if the Spirit conveys Christ to us to such an extent that it's like He Himself is actually with you, than you should seek to enjoy fellowship with Him. You do that by praying to Him, by worshipping Him, and by reading His words and asking for Him to help you understand and believe and obey them. If you do that...you can actually get to know Jesus, the risen Christ. You can actually cultivate a relationship, a friendship, a brotherhood, with the Son of God who died and was raised. This made possible by the Spirit's presence within you.
 - 5. If God feels far off...it's not because He is. If it feels like God isn't listening to you, it's not because it's true. Don't believe your feelings...believe the word of the Lord. If you are in the Spirit, it's because the Spirit of God, and of Christ is in you.
- 6. Finally in verse 10 if Christ is IN YOU, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is LIFE because of righteousness. The spirit gives us LIFE.
 - 1. That sentence is a little bit confusing. The first part seems easy to track with: Our body will die because of sin. Even though the Spirit has set us free from the powers of sin and death...our body is still subject to the old order of things. Our body will still undergo physical death because of sin.
 - 2. On the other hand the spirit is LIFE because of righteousness. And the question is whose spirit is that talking about? Is it human spirit...or the domain of spiritual realities in which spiritual people live and upon which they think...or the holy Spirit?
 - 3. It's hard to know for sure. But what IS obvious is this where there was once only death... now there is LIFE. The Spirit is LIFE. And this life, that comes from the Spirit must be spiritual life. True life. Eternal life. Life from God. By the power of the Spirit God offers

all of you who hear my voice, heavenly life, life that will set you free to pursue righteousness.

So let's review what we've talked about so far. Who is this bible passage talking about? People who used to be hopeless and helpless before God, who have now received the Spirit. And these people are the church, the whole church, everyone who confesses and believes that Jesus is Lord. Next we asked, what does the Spirit's presence mean for those who believe. And we saw that the Spirit's presence means, we are being made into a home for God, that we belong to God, that He conveys Christ to us, and that in Him we receive LIFE. But it's easter. And Easter is for talking about the Resurrection, the empty tomb of our Lord. WE need to consider now, how everything I have just said is inseparably connected to the resurrection of our Lord!

HOW DOES THIS CONNECT TO THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST?

- 1. Look down at verse 11. IF this says...the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead willa lso give life to your mortal bodies through His spirit who dwells in you.
- 2. So what He is saying is IF the Spirit is present in us doing all that stuff mentioned above... that means that we have the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead. The glorious power that reunited the body and soul of Christ...the same Spirit that enabled Christ to endure the cross, to heal the sick, to bind up the broken hearted, the same Spirit whose power could summon the Lord out of death...and cause His heart to beat and his mind to think and his nerves to function...that SAME SPIRIT NOW DWELLS IN YOU.

1. Whoa...that's the first thing He says.

- 3. The second thing He says is if we have the same Spirit who resurrected Christ, than GOD WILL RAISE US UP OUT OF DEATH ALSO. He who raised Christ will also give life to YOUR mortal bodies.
- 4. God did it once in Christ, AND NOW HE PROMISES...HE WILL will do it to us. Verse 11 is a promise brothers and sisters. If you have the Holy Spirit...if you are a Christian, who is actively repenting of their sin and living out your faith in God....he will also raise you from the dead, the same way He raised Christ.
 - 1. On the basis of what the Jesus accomplished in HIs death and resurrection, God the Father will give life to your mortal body through His Spirit who dwells in you.
- 5. This verse is what made me want to preach this for easter. Look at it closely...If the Spirit of Him...who raised Jesus. Who is that talking about? That's talking about the Father. If the Spirit of the Father who raised Jesus dwells in you...than the Father who raised Messiah Jesus from death will also give life to you through His Spirit.
 - 1. Your resurrection hope is a trinitarian hope. Father will raise you, as He raised His conquering Son, through the exact same Spirit.
- 6. And this promise is for all who believe. Bodily life in the world to come. Here is what the resurrection of Christ means for you who believe this Easter.
 - 1. If Christ is raised you don't have to fear death. Because God has laid a definite claim upon your life, you are His...which means you CAN'T belong to anyone else, not death, not the devil, not any other force at work in the universe...You are God's and not even death can break the bonds of His love that surround your life. Because Jesus was raised

in power...you don't have to fear death knowing that God has promised to raise you in power also.

- 2. If Christ is raised you aren't alone. After He was risen He sent the Spirit to you to convey Himself to you to such an extent it's like he Himself is there. Christ is with you. Through the resurrection of Jesus, it's almost like you have been given a video conference app for your phone, where it's almost like you are literally with Jesus, it's just he isn't here physically. But the app is able to convey Him to you so effectively it's almost as if He is in the room. And he will never leave you or forsake you...you are His home, and you belong to Him.
- 3. If Christ is raised you don't have to fear the future, because He who gave life to Christ will give life to your mortal body. Christians don't have to fear the future because even though my age is counting up...my time on this earth is counting down. This morning you woke up...one day closer to resurrection. Today you woke up one Easter closer to the return of our Lord.
- 4. If Christ is raised...you can live a life of fearless love. Looking to the welfare of others as more important than yourself. How through the powerful, life-giving Spirit He has sent.
- 5. If Christ is raised you can live with joyful confidence knowing that power of the One who is in you, and the unbreakable love of the Ons who saves you, fills you and promises to bring you to Himself.
- 7. If you want this but you don't know what to do...you can pray to the risen Christ, and say I don't want sin any more I want you. I don't want death any more I want life. I am lost, find me. I'm in need, save me. And keep praying that prayer until you are convinced you have been heard, until you know that Christ didn't just die for sin, but that He died for YOUR sin, and through HIs resurrection power, He will give life to YOUR mortal body.

Christ is risen and present with His people, so live with fearless love